

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 08856 102000Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 08856

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, TU
SUBJECT: TURKEY AND THE EC

REF: (A) THE HAGUE 4895, (B) THE HAGUE 4903, (C) ANKARA 6899

1. SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES, SEPTEMBER 10, RAN DOWN RESULTS OF VISIT HE AND DUTCH FOREIGN MINSITER VAN DER STOEL MADE TO ANKARA SEPT 6 AND 7. IN ADDITION TO MATERIAL REPORTED IN REFTELS, SOAMES ADDED FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

2. VIRTUALLY FROM MOMENT OF ARRIVAL, HE AND VAN DER STOEL WERE TREATED TO CONSTANT HARANGUE ABOUT THE ALLEGED INTRANSIGENCE OF THE GREEKS AND THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO ENTER ANY SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKS. AT ONE POINT, SOAMES SAID HE ASKED TURKS IF THEY REALLY BELIEVED ALL RIGHT WAS ON THEIR SIDE, BUT GOT NO DIRECT RESPONSE. HE SAID TURKS ARE CONVINCED GREEKS WILL CONTINUE TO DELAY SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THEY HOLD U.S. CONGRESSIONAL HOSTILITY TOWARD TURKEY AS THEIR ACE IN HOLE AND WILL SIT ON IT
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 08856 102000Z

AS LONG AS CONGRESS LETS THEM. THAT SAID, HE

WAS STILL GIVEN IMPRESSION IN THESE TALKS AND OTHERSW WITH GREEKS THAT BOTH RECOGNIZED THEY WOULD HAVE TO COMPROMISE ON CYPRUS AND THAT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEIR RESPECTIVE EXPECTATIONS WAS WITHIN A REASONABLE NEGOTIATING RANGE. WHILE BOTH REMAINED ADAMANT FOR THE MOMENT, HE NOTED THAT CAGLAYANGIL AND BITSIOS WOULD AT ELAST BE MEETING ON AEGEAN ISSUE IN NEW YORK ON SEPT 27 AFTER SISMIL HAS COMPLETED LAST VOYAGE.

3. RE OUTLOOK FOR A REVISED ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENT WITH EC, SOAMES SAID MAIN STICKING POINT REMAINS EC TREATMENT OF TURKISH WORKERS IN COMMUNITY. HE SAID TURKS WOULD TAKE THE NEW FINANCIAL PROTOCOL, ACCEPT THE LIBERALIZED AGRICULTURE MEASURES WHICH COMMUNITY, WITH DIFFICULTY, WAS READY TO OFFER AND THE REST OF THE PACKAGE (SEE USEC BRUSSELS 8624 FOR DETAILS), ON WORKERS, EC IS COMMITTED, AFTER TEN YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD (TO BEGIN IN DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR), TO GRANT TURKISH WORKERS IN EC COUNTRIES TREATMENT AND BENEFITS ANALOGOUS TO THOSE FOR WORKERS FROM OTHER MEMBER STATES. GERMANS (WHO ARE MOST WORRIED AND WHO CANNOT MOVE ON THIS ISSUE PRIOR TO OCTOBER 4 ELECTIONS) REFUSE TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO NATIONAL TREATMENT AND TURKS INSIST THIS BE MADE EXPLICIT AND WANT A QUICKER TRANSITION. THOUGH SOAMES IS TAKING NO BETS THAT THE EC/TURKISH ASSOCIATION COUNCIL WILL MEET ON OCTOBER 16 (AS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED), HE DOES BELIEVE A DEAL CAN BE MADE AFTER GERMAN ELECTIONS AND THAT THE COUNCIL WILL RATIFY IT SOMETIME THIS FALL. HE ALSO STRESSED TO TURKS NEED TO WORK OUT ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE BEFORE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETS AND SAID VAN DER STOEL WILL BE IN FURTHER CONTACT WITH TURKS ON THIS. HINTON

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